

Work Task E4: Palo Verde Ecological Reserve

Partners:	California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG)
Contact:	Terry Murphy, LC-8400
Purpose:	Habitat creation
Conservation Measures:	CLRA1, WIFL1, WRBA2, WYBA3, CRCR2, YHCR2, LEBI1, BLRA1, YBCU1, ELOW1, GIFL1, GIWO1, VEFL1, BEVI1, YWAR1, SUTA1 and MNSW2
Long-term Goal(s):	To create as much viable habitat as possible on these approximately 1,300 irrigable acres.
Location:	Within Palo Verde Irrigation District, just north of Blythe, California.
FY2006 Estimate:	\$310,000 for contracts and Reclamation staff costs to evaluate and plan the overall habitat creation project, and to implement Phase I to develop a 20-acre native plant nursery.
FY2007 Estimate:	\$800,000 for contracts and Reclamation staff costs to restore 80 acres of habitat.
FY2008 Estimate:	\$810,000. Same as previous year.
Project Description:	<p>Portions of the Palo Verde Valley, owned by the CDFG are being evaluated as a potential habitat creation project. The intent of the assessment is to determine possible restoration research projects and accomplish as much viable habitat creation as possible on the site.</p> <p>Phase I, a 20-acre parcel, will be developed with cottonwood and willow in FY2006 to initiate the</p>

habitat creation process. Discussions with CDFG are in process and should define future restoration actions on the reserve. A study plan is available.